

Fort Sumter Park Regulations

(taken from the *Compendium of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and other Restrictions Imposed Under Superintendent's Discretionary Authority*)

1. Visitors and Service representatives must enter the park through the signed gates located at facility entrances.
2. Employees are not permitted on site after park operating hours except when approved by their supervisor.
3. The Fort Moultrie Visitor Education Center and the historic fort shall be open from 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. daily, while grounds are open from sunrise to sunset daily. During the summer the Visitor Education Center and fort hours vary. Fort Sumter shall be open as dictated by boat tours.
4. Unimproved roads and service roads are open for contractual services, administrative protection, maintenance purposes, and activities authorized by special use permit only.
5. Visitors must keep their vehicles on improved state roads and service parking areas only.
6. Sporting activities including, but not limited to, kite flying, golfing, soccer, baseball, football, etc. are prohibited at Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie.
7. Permits are required for the following actions. Permits must be submitted no later than 72 hours prior to the event:
 - A. Material collections
 - B. Collection of specimens
 - C. Special events
 - D. Public assemblies and meetings
 - E. Sale and distribution of printed materials
 - F. Memorialization
 - G. Operations of commercial business
 - H. Filming for commercial business
 - I. Overnight use of Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie docks.
8. The advertisement of commercial business either by printed notice or public address methods is prohibited.
9. Spanish moss, sea oats, pine straw, wood and other natural or man-made items may not be collected except as noted.
10. Wood may not be collected, except driftwood along the beach face.
11. Walking upon, climbing, ascending, descending, or traversing all earth mounds, cannons and carriages, fort walls and historic structures are prohibited.
12. Viewing of wildlife with artificial light is prohibited.
13. Fishing, trapping and casting from the Fort Sumter dock are prohibited during visitor hours.
14. Only Federal law enforcement officers and those cooperating state and local agencies are permitted to carry firearms.
15. Fishing is permitted at the Fort Moultrie dock.
16. Cast nets and crab traps may be used at the Fort Moultrie dock. Traps left overnight require a permit.
17. Official NPS volunteers under the supervision of a permanent park ranger may carry unloaded weapons for living history activities.
18. Camping is prohibited.
19. Picnicking is permitted in the designated area located at the Fort Moultrie dock.

20. Charcoal fires are permitted in the designated picnic area. Charcoal fires must be self-contained in the grilling device made for such purpose. Ashes must be cooled and removed or placed in the trash container.
21. Pets are prohibited in both forts, historic buildings and within all park buildings. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO SEEING EYE DOGS when accompanied by a blind person.
22. Smoking is not permitted in the Visitor Education Centers, Fort Sumter Museum, Fort Sumter, Battery Jasper, and other designated places.
23. Property left within the park after posted closing hours shall be determined to be abandoned. Vehicles left overnight in the Fort Moultrie Visitor Education Center parking area will be given a 24-hour grace period after which they shall be towed at the owner's expense. Other property shall be listed as lost or found and held for sixty (60) days.
24. Alcoholic beverages may be consumed only within the designated picnic area.
25. The use of fireworks is prohibited without a permit.
26. Swimming and diving are prohibited.
27. Scattering of human ashes is not permitted.
28. The park speed limit is 15 mph.
29. To maintain the tranquil, commemorative atmosphere of the historic site, special events are limited.
30. Commercial operations of any nature are prohibited in the park without appropriate permits.